

REMARKS

A. Status of Claims

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application.

B. Summary Of Office Action

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,997 to Lamming et al. ("Lamming").

C. Response

Sheet 1 of 5 of the Information Disclosure Statement received February 4, 2002 was returned but not initialed. Applicants request that Examiner initial the same and return in the next action. In addition, the Applicant requests the Examiner's consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, transmitted herewith.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections and requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Lamming, cited by the Examiner, does not disclose, teach or suggest all of the elements of claims 1-22. Lamming discloses a system for accessing and distributing electronic documents using portable electronic document transport devices. (col. 3, lines 36-44). While Lamming mentions the possibility of using security encryption (col. 8, lines 48-57), there is no disclosure of how such security would be implemented in the Lamming system. Lamming assumes the communication can be made secure without discussing how this might be done.

In contrast to Lamming, the claims of the present application detail the implementation of security mechanisms used to control access to a service. In particular, the claims of the present application include delegating "permission to a delegatee ... using a digital signature ... where... delegation ... occurs over a personal area network while physical presence exists."

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the pending rejections and the timely allowance of the pending claims. If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-739-5705 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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